

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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SUBJECT: ISVS DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL POST

REF: GENEVA 4209; STATE 159994

1. ISVS CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR DICHTER CALLED AT MISSION AUGUST 23 JUST BEFORE UNEXPECTED DEPARTURE FOR U.S. ACCOUNT MOTHER'S ILLNESS. DICHTER REVIEWED SITUATION CONCERNING HIS CANDIDACY FOR POST DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF ISVS AND SAID HE INTENDS CONTINUE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. HE HAS INFORMED SECRETARY-GENERAL ZOLLNER AND DEPUTY REINHOLD OF CANDIDACY BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED POSITIVE ENDORSEMENT OF EITHER. REINHOLD WILL NOT REPEAT NOT STAND FOR RE-ELECTION AS PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT.

2. DICHTER SAID HE HAS CANVASSED PRINCIPAL MISSIONS IN GENEVA CONCERNED WITH ISVS EXCEPT FRENCH AND HAS RECEIVED NO NEGATIVE REACTION HIS CANDIDACY ALTHOUGH MOST MISSIONS HAVE (UNDERSTANDABLY) INDICATED NECESSITY FOR INSTRUCTIONS FROM HOME OFFICE BEFORE MAKING COMMITMENT. DICHTER SAID DID NOT CANVAS FRENCH MISSION BECAUSE HE BELIEVES FRENCH WILL HAVE CANDIDATE OF OWN ALREADY WITHIN ISVS. DICHTER SAYS THIS APPEARS BE ONLY OTHER CANDIDATE ON HORIZON PRESENTLY.

3. DICHTER REPORTED HE GOT WARM RESPONSE FROM MISSIONS OF LIBERIA, ZAIRE, AND PHILIPPINES. BECAUSE U.S. POSITION RE
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DICHTER CANDIDACY NOT YET FIRM, THIS MISSION HAS NOT YET

CANVASSED OTHER MISSIONS HERE. ISRAELI MISSION, HOWEVER, HAS ASKED IF U.S. ENDORSES DICHTER CANDIDACY, AND EXPRESSED ISRAELI APPROVAL OF DICHTER'S PERFORMANCE AND ENTHUSIASM WHILE HAVING UNDEFINED RESERVATIONS ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE COUNTERBALANCE TO ZOLLNER.

4. MISSION HAS INFORMED DICHTER ONLY THAT IT HAS INFORMED DEPT OF HIS CANDIDACY FOR POST. HOWEVER, SINCE HE HAS OPENLY ANNOUNCED CANDIDACY IN GENEVA AND WILL BE IN U.S., HE WILL PROBABLY COME TO DEPT AND SEEK SUPPORT.

5. IN MISSION VIEW, DICHTER HAS NUMBER OF QUALITIES WHICH RECOMMEND HIM FOR CONSIDERATION, AMONG THEM BEING KNOWLEDGE OF ISVS, ENTHUSIASM FOR ORGANIZATION AND ITS GOALS AS WELL AS INDUSTRY AND APPARENT GOOD RAPPORT AND REPUTATION WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES SUPPORTING ISVS. DICHTER HAS ALSO CONSISTENTLY DISPLAYED STRONG INTEREST IN U.S. OBJECTIVES IN ISVS AND HAS MADE ATTEMPT KEEP THIS MISSION FULLY AND FRANKLY INFORMED OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS IN ISVS. WHILE AT TIMES DISPLAYING WHAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED CERTAIN POLITICAL NAIVETE, THIS POSSIBLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO ENTHUSIASM AND BASIC OPENNESS.

6. FOR DEPT'S INFO, FOLLOWING IS DATA TAKEN FROM DICHTER'S RESUME WHICH HE LEFT WITH MISSION: BORN MAY 7, 1931 AT ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. MARRIED TO SWISS NATIONAL. RECEIVED B.A. DEGREE, 1954, ALIGARTH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, INDIA, MAJOR IN ASIAN STUDIES. ALSO HAS M.A., 1960, CLARK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY, USA, AND PH.D., 1962, LONDON UNIVERSITY. WITH ISVS SINCE JULY 1970 AS DIRECTOR MULTINATIONAL VOLUNTEER TEAMS AND CLEARINGHOUSE COORDINATOR. PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED DECEMBER 1969-JULY 1970 AS CONSULTANT ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS IN OEO, WASHINGTON; DIRECTOR SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM, CITY OF NEW YORK, MAY-NOVEMBER 1969; URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT DIRECTOR, CITY OF NEW YORK, MAY 1960-JANUARY 1969; DIRECTOR SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, CITY OF WASHINGTON, D.C. JUNE-SEPTEMBER 1967; FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR "YOUGH FOR DEVELOPMENT," PRIVATE WASHINGTON, D.C. ORGANIZATION, SEPTEMBER 1963-DECEMBER 1967; PEACE CORPS DESK OFFICER, AUGUST 1962-SEPTEMBER 1963; USIS JUNIOR OFFICER TRAINEE BANGKOK, ASSISTANT BRANCH PAO MADALAY AND BRANCH PAO MOULMEIN JULY 1957-DECEMBER 1959.

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MILITARY SERVICE U.S. MARINE CORPS, 1ST LT., 1955-57.

7. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING OF ANY CONVERSATIONS HELD WITH DICHTER IN DEPT AND ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE DEPT CAN GIVE RE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD HIS CANDIDACY, A QUESTION TO WHICH MISSION IS LIKELY TO HAVE TO RESPOND INCREASINGLY AS OTHER MISSIONS HERE RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS.BASSIN

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